

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1-18 are all the claims pending in the application. Applicant submits the pending claims define patentable subject matter.

Status of the Application

The Office Action dated February 5, 2008 states that claims 1-18 are pending, but that only claims 5-8 stand rejected. Regarding claims 5-8, the Examiner asserts that the claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because the claimed invention is allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. However, Applicant notes that the Examiner does not indicate the status of the remaining claims, 1-4 and 9-18.

Accordingly, Applicant presumes that claims 1-4 and 9-18 are allowable since they are not addressed in the Office Action dated February 5, 2008.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

As noted above, Applicant herein amends claim 5 in a manner consistent with the agreement reached during the above-noted telephonic interview.¹ Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the §101 rejection.

¹ Applicant notes that claims 6-8 are also amended for consistency.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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